

THE RICHMOND DISPATCH.

BY THE DISPATCH COMPANY.

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THURSDAY, APRIL 29, 1886.

The State Committee.

The Democratic State Central Committee was in session yesterday. What it did is stated in our local columns. We will comment upon its action so far as to say that the members voted and spoke not for themselves only, but for the whole Democratic party of Virginia when they with one voice and a unanimous vote demanded that Mr. BARBOUR should continue at the head of the army which he has thrice led to victory. Mr. BARBOUR consented to serve his State again, and withdrew his resignation. He is no ACHILLES. He did not wish to sulk in his tent. He offered his resignation because he expected to visit Europe in July and be absent from Virginia for several months—so long that he considered that it would be unwise to leave the State Central Committee without a head for so long a period. The problem of keeping Mr. BARBOUR at the head of the committee and yet allowing him to go to Europe was happily solved by appointing Colonel ANCHER ANDERSON, long one of his trusted lieutenants, as acting chairman. This, too, was done unanimously.

We congratulate the Democratic party of Virginia upon this auspicious opening of the campaign of 1886.

Not So.

In an interview with a Washington reporter a few days ago, General MARION said of Governor LEE that he now invokes the people of Virginia to defy the law as adjudicated by the highest and ablest legal tribunal in all the land. From which it would appear that General MARION supposes that the Supreme Court of the United States has decided that the people of Virginia must pay their taxes in coupons. Governor LEE's proclamation was based upon the fact that no judicial tribunal ever has or ever will render a decision so absurd. He asks the people not to pay their taxes in coupons. He asks them to hold public meetings and let their friends and neighbors and all the world know that they will not pay their taxes in coupons and that they wish of all their friends to follow their example.

Two things are clear, therefore—

First, Governor LEE recognizes the right of the people to pay their taxes in coupons. Otherwise, he would not ask them not to exercise that right. Second, Governor LEE does not ask anybody to defy the decisions of the Supreme Court of the United States. On the contrary, he tells the people that it is those very decisions which rendered it necessary for him to issue the proclamation in question.

A Good Example.

During the first day's proceedings of the third annual convention of the American Historical Association Virginia came to the front with a prominence that is most gratifying. Addresses were made by ALEXANDER BROWN and WILLIAM WIRT HENRY, two gentlemen from whom none are more competent to represent the State in that assemblage. The Washington Post says: The first speaker of the evening session was ALEXANDER BROWN and that Mr. HENRY "delivered the principal address of the evening." In taking an active part in the proceedings of such a body these gentlemen have set a good example—namely, that we hope will not be lost upon other Virginians who are equally competent to secure high recognition of the talent and learning of the State in the numerous associations of a different character that are to meet in the North this summer. We repeat here what we have frequently said that the South has no one to blame but herself for a great deal of the misrepresentation that appears in northern papers regarding her social, educational, literary, and scientific status and progress. No doubt some things that have been said in the way of invidious comparison of our institutions of learning with those of the North were due to malice, but more to ignorance. With rare exceptions we have made no effort to let the leading thinkers of the North know what we are doing in our colleges and universities and what manner of men are doing it. We have not fully availed ourselves of the advantages of the fellowship of brain and the fellowship of original thought and investigation afforded by the annual meetings of scientific, literary, social, educational, and philosophical bodies. And this, too, despite the fact that we would be most welcome at such meetings—for the domain of intellect knows no prejudice. There is not a body in the United States embraced under the heads we have enumerated to which Virginia could not send members who would do credit

THE SOUTH SIDE.

NEWS FROM THE COUNTRIES—RECEIVED IN RICHMOND.

Long-Contested Case Decided—A Murderer Sentenced—Marriages and Personal. Political and Otherwise.

(Correspondence of the Richmond Dispatch.)

PETERSBURG, April 28, 1886. The residence of Mr. B. R. Lewis, about two miles south of Dinwiddie Courthouse, was destroyed by fire a day or two ago, with a large double-frame kitchen adjoining. Mr. Lewis set fire to some dry brush just outside of his yard, from which sparks were carried by the wind to the roof of the house. All efforts to save the buildings were fruitless. Mr. Lewis succeeded in saving most of his furniture. He had an insurance of only \$500 on the dwelling, which was placed in the Agricultural Company.

The long-contested election case of B. D. Tillar vs. P. R. Farley, at Hicksford, was decided yesterday in the Circuit Court of Greensville county by Judge Hancock in favor of Tillar. This case has been fought from the County Court to the Court of Appeals and back to the Circuit Court for the past three years, with a vigor and determination on the part of both plaintiff and defendant seldom surpassed. From first to last some fifteen or twenty lawyers have been employed in the case. The suit involved the possession of hotel property at Hicksford.

Counsel for George Clark (colored), who was convicted in the Hustings Court of this city last week of the murder of his wife with an axe in this city in November last, have announced their intention of submitting to the verdict of the jury of eighteen years' imprisonment in the penitentiary. Judge Bernard today passed sentence on the prisoner, after having previously suspended judgment to allow an appeal to be taken. The impression among many is that Clark's counsel did well in saving their client's life.

PERSONAL NOTES.

Dr. Charles T. Hibbert, who was married yesterday to Miss Florence Wilson, was dressed in the full uniform of the United States navy. A number of his friends of the navy were present in full uniform.

Dr. Walter L. Devaney, a prominent and popular young surgeon of Sussex county, residing at Wakefield, was married at noon today to Miss Anna, daughter of Mr. William E. Wells, of this city. The ceremony was performed in St. Paul's church, the pastor, Rev. C. R. Hains, D. D., officiating in the presence of a numerous assemblage. The bride was dressed in a travelling suit of blue cotton cloth. She is a beautiful brunette, and a most attractive and charming young lady. She was the recipient of many handsome presents from her friends in this city. The groom was a lovely prize in her. The couple, immediately after the marriage, left for their home in Sussex.

The same train that bore them away brought a happy married couple down to this city. They were Mr. Thomas Bond, an honored young citizen of Petersburg, and bride, Mrs. Langhorne, of Appomattox county.

Mr. W. N. Gregory, a popular young druggist of this city, was married this afternoon to Miss Josephine, daughter of the late Richard F. Strachan.

MISCELLANEOUS MATTERS.

The managers of the approaching musical festival have received information which leads them to anticipate a large attendance of visitors at the festival in May from different portions of this State and North Carolina. It has not been found necessary this year to raise any guarantee fund, as in previous years. The success of the festival is more than assured by the sale of tickets in the city.

The county authorities of Greensville have not as yet succeeded in capturing the negro Andrew Loftin, who recently assassinated his father-in-law Avert. It is supposed, however, that he is still hiding in the swamps near where the murder was committed. Neither has anything been heard of the highway robbers whose recent outrages have been reported in the Dispatch.

The Circuit Court of Greensville adjourned today, after disposing of an unusually heavy docket.

Fine rains fell throughout this section last night and today. They were greatly needed, as the ground was becoming very dry.

The druggists of Messrs. E. R. Beckwith & Co., on Sycamore street, was broken into through one of the windows, and the money-drawer was robbed of its contents. An attempt was also made to break into a neighboring store, doubtless by the same parties, but without success.

The contest for the Republican nomination for mayor is becoming very animated and interesting. There are only two candidates—Mr. T. J. Jarratt, the present incumbent, and Mr. James D. Bowie, of the Fifth ward. The friends of each gentleman are very active. The Democrats will put a full ticket in the field for municipal offices. There is reason to believe that with proper nominations a large vote may be drawn from the Republican ranks.

ROBIN ADAM.

Suicide in Caroline. (Correspondence of the Richmond Dispatch.)

HEWLETT'S, VA., April 28, 1886. John Wright committed suicide at his home, in Caroline county, Monday morning. Soon after breakfast he went into the barn, where he had some new carriages. He tied a rope to one of the joists and jumped from the top of one of the carriages. He was a carriage-maker by trade. The cause of the act is not known. He was about sixty years old.

Nelson Resolves Against Using Coupons. LOVINGSTON, April 26, 1886. Many of the tax-payers of Nelson county assembled at Nelson Courthouse April 25th (court-day), at 1:30 P. M.

The object of the meeting was stated by Mr. Bennett H. Gordon, on whose motion Dr. A. B. Fitzpatrick was elected chairman and Mr. Benjamin M. Wiles, Jr., secretary.

Mr. Robert Whitehead offered the following resolutions, which were unanimously adopted:

Whereas the people of Virginia have in their conventions and by joint resolutions of the General Assembly expressed their determination to stand by and carry out the settlement of the public debt according to the provisions of the Riddleberger bill; and whereas it is in the power of the citizens of the State to enforce the settlement according to the provisions of the said bill by abstaining from the use of coupons in the payment of the taxes due to the State; and whereas the Governor has issued his proclamation calling upon all good citizens to do so, and to assemble in public meetings and give expression to their views in support of the said measure: now, therefore, the people of Nelson county, in mass-meeting assembled, do resolve—

1. That they will pay their taxes and dues to the State in lawful money and not in coupons.

2. That they believe the use of coupons is a violation of the law and of the honor of England and other countries.

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